Numb. 162

# The TATLER.

## By *Iſaac Bickerſtaff* Eſq;

*Tertius è Cælo cecidit Cato.* Juv. Sat. 2.

From *Thurſday April* 20. to *Saturday April* 22. 1710.

*From my own Apartment, April* 21.

IN my younger Years I uſed many Endeavours to get a Place at Court, and indeed continued my Purſuits till I arrived at my *Grand Climacterick*: But at length altogether deſpairing of Succeſs, whether it were for Want of Capacity, Friends, or due Application, I at laſt reſolved to erect a new Office, and for my Encouragement, to place my ſelf in it. For this Reaſon, I took upon me the Title and Dignity of *Cenſor* of *Great Britain*, reſerving to my ſelf all ſuch Perquiſites, Profits, and Emoluments, as ſhould ariſe out of the Diſcharge of the ſaid Office. Theſe in Truth have not been inconſiderable; for, beſides thoſe Weekly Contributions which I receive from *John Morphew*, and thoſe annual Subſcriptions which I propoſe to my ſelf from the moſt elegant Part of this great Iſland, I daily live in a very comfortable Affluence of Wine, Stale Beer, *Hungary* Water, Beef, Books, and Marrow-Bones, which I receive from many well-diſpoſed Citizens; not to mention the Forfeitures which accrue to me from the ſeveral Offenders that appear before me on Court-Days.

Having now enjoyed this Office for the Space of a Twelvemonth, I ſhall do what all good Officers ought to do, take a Survey of my Behaviour, and conſider carefully, whether I have diſcharged my Duty, and acted up to the Character with which I am inveſted. For my Direction in this Particular, I have made a narrow Search into the Nature of the old *Roman Cenſors*, whom I muſt always regard, not only as my Predeceſſors, but as my Patterns in this great Employment; and have ſeveral Times asked my own Heart with great Impartiality, Whether *Cato* will not bear a more venerable Figure among Poſterity than *Bickerſtaff*?

I find, the Duty of the *Roman Cenſor* was Twofold. The firſt Part of it conſiſted in making frequent Reviews of the People, in caſting up their Numbers, ranging them under their ſeveral Tribes, diſpoſing them into proper Claſſes, and ſubdividing them into their reſpective Centuries.

In Compliance with this Part of the Office, I have taken many curious Surveys of this great City. I have collected into particular Bodies the *Dappers* and the *Smarts*, the *Natural* and *Affected Rakes*, the *Pretty Fellows* and the *very Pretty Fellows*. I have likewiſe drawn out in ſeveral diſtinct Parties your *Pedants* and *Men of Fire*, your *Gameſters* and *Politicians*. I have ſeparated *Cits* from *Citizens*, *Free-Thinkers* from *Philoſophers*, *Wits* from *Snuff-Takers*, and *Duelliſts* from *Men of Honour*. I have likewiſe made a Calculation of *Eſquires*, not only conſidering the ſeveral diſtinct Swarms of them that are ſettled in the different Parts of this Town, but alſo that more rugged Species that inhabit the Fields and Woods, and are often found in Pot-houſes, and upon Hay-cocks.

I ſhall paſs the Soft Sex over in Silence, having not yet reduced them into any tolerable Order; as likewiſe the ſofter Tribe of Lovers, which will coſt me a great deal of Time, before I ſhall be able to caſt them into their ſeveral Centuries and Subdiviſions.

The Second Part of the *Roman Cenſor*'s Office was to look into the Manners of the People, and to check any growing Luxury, whether in Diet, Dreſs, or Building. This Duty likewiſe I have endeavoured to diſcharge, by thoſe wholeſom Precepts which I have given my Countrymen in Regard to Beef and Mutton, and the ſevere Cenſures which I have paſſed upon Ragouts and Frigacies. There is not, as I am informed, a Pair of Red Heels to be ſeen within Ten Miles of *London*, which I may likewiſe aſcribe, without Vanity, to the becoming Zeal which I expreſſed in that Particular. I muſt own, my Succeſs with the Petticoat is not ſo great: But as I have not yet done with it, I hope I ſhall in a little Time put an effectual Stop to that growing Evil. As for the Article of Building, I intend hereafter to enlarge upon it, having lately obſerved ſeveral Ware-houſes, nay private Shops, that ſtand upon *Corinthian* Pillars, and whole Rows of Tin Pots ſhowing themſelves, in order to their Sale, through a Sath-Window.

I have likewiſe followed the Example of the *Roman* Cenſors, in puniſhing Offences according to the Quality of the Offender. It was uſual for them to expel a Senator who had been guilty of great Immoralities out of the Senate-Houſe, by omitting his Name when they called over the Liſt of his Brethren. In the ſame Manner, to remove effectually ſeveral worthleſs Men who ſtand poſſeſſed of great Honours, I have made frequent Draughts of dead Men out of the vicious Part of the Nobility, and given them up to the new Society of Upholders, with the neceſſary Orders for their Interment. As the *Roman* Cenſors uſed to puniſh the Knights or Gentlemen of *Rome*, by taking away their Horſes from them, I have ſeiſed the Canes of many Criminals of Figure, whom

whom I had just Reason to animadvert upon. As for the Offenders among the Common People of *Rome*, they were generally chastised, by being thrown out of a higher Tribe, and placed in one which was not so honourable. My Reader cannot but think I have had an Eye to this Punishment, when I have degraded one Species of Men into Bombs, Squibs, and Crackers, and another into Drums, Bass-Viols, and Bagpipes; not to mention whole Packs of Delinquents whom I have shut up in Kennels, and the new Hospital which I am at present erecting, for the Reception of those my Countrymen who give me but little Hopes of their Amendment, on the Borders of *Moor-Fields*. I shall only observe upon this last Particular, That since some late Surveys I have taken of this Island, I shall think it necessary to enlarge the Plan of the Buildings which I design in this Quarter.

When my great Predecessor *Cato* the Elder, stood for the Censorship of *Rome*, there were several other Competitors who offered themselves; and to get an Interest among the People, gave them great Promises of the mild and gentle Treatment which they would use towards them in that Office. *Cato* on the contrary told them, he presented himself as a Candidate, because he knew the Age was sunk in Immorality and Corruption; and, that if they would give him their Votes, he would promise them to make use of such a Strictness and Severity of Discipline as should recover them out of it. The *Roman* Historians, upon this Occasion, very much celebrate the Publick-Spiritedness of that People, who chose *Cato* for their Censor, notwithstanding his Method of recommending himself. I may in some Measure extol my own Countrymen upon the same Account, who, without any Respect to Party, and any Application from my self, have made such generous Subscriptions for the Censor of *Great Britain*, as will give a Magnificence to my old Age, of which I esteem more than I would any Post in *Europe* of an Hundred Times the Value. I shall only add, That upon looking into my Catalogue of Subscribers, which I intend to print Alphabetically in the Front of my Lucubrations, I find the Names of the greatest Beauties and Wits in the whole Island of *Great Britain*, which I only mention for the Benefit of any of them who have not yet subscribed, it being my Design to close the Subscription in a very short Time.

*Advertisements.*


*** PROPOSALS for Printing the LUCUBRATIONS of Isaac Bickerstaff Esq; by Subscriptions, in Two Volumes in Octavo, on a Large Character, and Fine Royal Paper, are to be seen, and Subscriptions taken, at Charles Lillie's, a Perfumer, at the Corner of Beauford Buildings in the Strand, and John Morphew's near Stationers-Hall. All Persons that design to subscribe to this Work, are desired to send in their Subscriptions, the Book being put to Press, in order to be published with all Expedition.

*TO Satisfy Gentlemen and Ladies who it is that would impose, in Relation to these Men and Women's Gowns, to be sold at the Olive-Tree and Still at Charing-Cross; advertiz'd against in the Post-Man, with Invitation to Ludgate-Hill: If they please to enquire at any Shop on the said Hill, they may be satisfied that there is not a Quarter of the Choice as there is in the Room at Charing-Cross; nor can they afford so good Pennyworths, because upon Examination, these will be truly found to be the Goods of Persons that failed.*

THE Houshold-Goods of the late Baron Schutz, Envoy of Hanover, will be sold by Auction on Tuesday next, the 25th Instant, at his late Dwelling-house in St James's Square, consisting of very fine Tapestry Hangings, and other rich Furniture, fine Linen, Plate, &c. The Goods to be seen this Day and Monday. Catalogues to be had at the House. The Sale to continue daily till all are sold.

AT the Desire of several Persons of Quality: For the Benefit of Mrs. Cross. At the Queen's Theatre in the Hay-Market, this present Saturday, being the 22d Instant, will be presented a Comedy, called, The Busie Body. The Part of the Busie Body, by Mr. Dogget; Sir George Airy, by Mr. Wilks; Charles, by Mr. Mills; Gripe, by Mr. Estcourt; Traffick, by Mr. Bullock; Miranda, by Mrs. Cross; Isabinda, by Mrs. Porter; and all the other Parts to the best Advantage.

*** There is just published, The Circe of Signior Giovanni Battista Gelli, of the Academy of Florence. Consisting of Ten Dialogues between Men transformed into Beasts: Giving a lively Representation of the various Passions, and many Inticities, of humane Life. Done out of Italian, by Mr. Thomas Brown. The Second Edition. Sold by J. Morphew near Stationers-Hall. Pr. 3 s. 6 d.

††† Lately published, The History of Addresses. By one very near a Kin to the Author of the Tale of a Tub. Do multumque desideratum. Printed for J. Pemberton at the Golden Buck and Sun against St. Dunstan's Church, Fleet-street. Pr. 4s. Where may be had, The Seventh Volume of Shakespear's Works, containing all his Poems, with Critical Remarks on his Plays, and an Essay on the Art, Rise, and Progress of the Stage, in Greece, Rome, and England. Price 5 s.

*** This Day is published, The Time of the Singing of Birds is come: Or, The Musical Post. Intermixed with Variety of diverting Poems, on the Nightingale, Lark, Finch, Canary-Bird, and other Feathered Quiristers of the Groves and Hedges. Writ by the Chief Wits of the Age. Which said Musical-Post is one of those 3000 Posts that will be published every Tuesday and Saturday till Dunton's Oracle (or Athenian News) is compleated, in 3000 distinct Posts. To each of which is added, The Catuistical Post, or Athenian Mercury; resolving the most nice and curious Questions propos'd by the Ingenious of either Sex. The Farewel, Mob, Whipping, Sybil, Duelling, and Ladies Posts, with several other Posts, are already Published. Sold by J. Morphew near Stationers-Hall.

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I Tho. Adin, Weaver, living in King's-Head-yard, Shoreditch, declare, That I had a Cough and Consumption, and received a perfect Cure, by the Blessing of God, and the Use of the Medicines of Mr. J. Moore, Apothecary, at the Pestle and Mortar in Abchurch-lane, London: And I desire, for the Good of others under the same Distemper, that this Cure may be made publick. Witness my Hand, April 17. 17 0. T. Adin.

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